

I. AMENDMENTS

A. In the Claims

Please amend Claims 76, 79, 80, and 83 and please add new claims 86 and 87.

Upon entry of the present amendment, the status of the claims will be as follows:

Claims 1-75 (canceled).

76. (currently amended) A kit useful for the detection of a methylated CpG-containing nucleic acid in a GSTP1 promoter comprising carrier means containing one or more containers comprising a first container containing a reagent which modifies unmethylated cytosine and a second container containing primer[s] pairs for amplification of the CpG-containing nucleic acid, wherein the primers distinguish between modified methylated and nonmethylated nucleic acid.

77. (previously presented) The kit of claim 76, wherein the modifying reagent is bisulfite.

78. (previously presented) The kit of claim 76, wherein said reagent modifies cytosine to uracil.

79. (currently amended) The kit of claim 76, wherein the primers hybridize[s] with a target polynucleotide sequence having the sequence from about -539 to -239 upstream from GSTP1 transcription start site.

80. (currently amended) The kit of claim 79, wherein the primers are SEQ ID Nos: 1 and [,] 2, [~~7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, or 13 or any combination thereof~~].

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81. (previously presented) The kit of claim 76, further comprising nucleic acid amplification buffer.

82. (previously presented) Isolated oligonucleotide primer(s) for detection of a methylated CpG-containing nucleic acid wherein the primer hybridizes with a target polynucleotide sequence having the sequence in the region from about -539 to -239 upstream from GSTP1 transcription start site.

83. (currently amended) The primers of claim 81, wherein the primers are a primer pair as shown in SEQ ID Nos: [1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, or 13] 1 and 2 [~~or any combination thereof~~].

Claims 84-85 (canceled).

86. (new) The kit of claim 80, further comprising using a primer pair selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 7 and 8; 7 and 9; 10 and 11; 12 and 13, or any combination thereof of such primer pairs.

87. (new) The primers of claim 82, further comprising using a primer pair selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 7 and 8; 7 and 9; 10 and 11; 12 and 13, or any combination thereof of such primer pairs.